

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 INR-05 CIAE-00 HA-02
CU-02 L-01 PM-03 DODE-00 NSAE-00 SCS-01 CA-01
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-----069226 282119Z /45

R 271600Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7220
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 1353

LIMDIS

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CSCE, SHUM, UR
SUBJECT: SAKHAROV ON RELIGIOUS DISSIDENTS AND PENTACOSTALISTS

REF: (A) MOSCOW 1272, (B) MOSCOW 1061

1. SUMMARY: AS REPORTED REFTEL A, SAKHAROV VISITED CONSULAR OFFICE ON JANUARY 26 AND DISCUSSED SITUATION OF DISSIDENTS IN THE SOVIET UNION. SAKHAROV WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN COMMUNICATING DETERIORATING SITUATION OF BAPTIST MINISTER VLADIMIR KHAYLO AND STATUS OF PENTECOSTAL COMMUNITY. END SUMMARY.

2. VLADIMIR KHAYLO: SAKHAROV INFORMED EMBASSY THAT SOVIET JUDICIAL PROCESSING HAS BEGUN TO DEPRIVE KHAYLO AND WIFE OF CUSTODY OF MINOR CHILDREN (KHAYLO HAS 15 CHILDREN, THE OLDEST OF WHICH IS IN FORCED LABOR CAMP AND TWO OF THE OTHERS ARE IN "SPECIAL SCHOOLS"). ACCORDING TO SAKHAROV, ON FIRST DAY OF TRIAL, SOVIET COURT REFUSED TO ACCEPT ANY WRITTEN OR ORAL
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TESTIMONY DEFENDING KHAYLO'S POSITION. KHAYLO AND WIFE AT THAT POINT LEFT COURT AND REFUSED TO TAKE FURTHER PART IN PROCEEDINGS. IF TRIAL CONTINUES ON PRESENT COURSE, SAKHAROV PLANS TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENT TO JOURNALISTS PROTESTING SOVIET ACTIONS IN THIS CASE.

3. PENTACOSTALISTS: SAKHAROV CONFIRMED EMBASSY INFORMATION

THAT MEMBERS OF THE NAKHODKA PENTACOSTAL COMMUNITY HAVE BEEN PREVENTED FROM CONTACTING EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICERS. SAKHAROV STATED THAT A NUMBER OF PENTACOSTALS IN THE NAKODKA HAVE APPLIED AT OVIR FOR PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE TO THE UNITED STATES. THESE PEOPLE HAVE VYZOVS FROM "SISTERS IN CHRIST" AND "BROTHERS IN CHRIST" FROM THE U.S., BUT THE NAKODKA OVIR HAS REFUSED TO HONOR THEM. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE TO SEEK ASSISTANCE IN EMIGRATING EITHER TO AMERICA OR TO ISRAEL.

4. COMMENT: SAKHAROV'S INFORMATION CONFIRMS WHAT THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN REPORTING ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE PENTACOSTALS NOT ONLY IN NAKODKA BUT THROUGHOUT THE SOVIET UNION. TWO HOURS AFTER SAKHAROV LEFT EMBASSY, FOR EXAMPLE, REPORTING OFFICER RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM ESTONIAN PENTACOSTAL REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING VYZOV FOR 32 FAMILIES WITH OVER 120 PERSONS. MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 jan 1978
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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